

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 and 26-28 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 9, 12, 15 and 20 are amended, claims 23-25 are cancelled, and claims 26-28 are added. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank Examiners Zhou and Cabeza for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives during the April 27, 2004 interview. During the interview, claim language and the applied prior art were discussed. The Examiners also presented a section in the applied prior art that was not cited in the Office Action and asserted that this section may be relevant to the claimed invention.

I. Formal Matter

The Office Action objects to claims 23-25 under 37 CFR §1.75(c) as being improper dependent form. As agreed during the interview, claims 23-25 are cancelled, and rewritten in independent form as claims 26-28, respectively. As such, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

II. The Pending Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,751,287 to Hahn et al. (Hahn). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended for better clarity and recites, *inter alia*, that a thumbnail is a reduced-size representation of at least a part of the original document. This feature is described in the specification at, for example, column [0034].

The Office Action asserts that drawers of a filing cabinet correspond to the thumbnail. Applicants respectfully disagree.

As described in the Abstract, the drawer is merely a graphical "icon" for easier visual identification (of a category). Applicants respectfully submit that it is widely known that an icon is not a reduced-size representation of the original document but merely a representation of a "link" to a specific file and/or directory. As such, it is unreasonable to call an icon a thumbnail.

Claim 1 also recites that the thumbnail has the original document as a first associated destination and at least one first selectable element having, as a second associated destination, one of a portion of the original document and a document other than the original document. Thus, the thumbnail includes two selectable elements, i.e., the thumbnail as a whole and the first selectable element, and the destinations are different when the thumbnail as a whole is selected and when the first selectable element is selected.

During the interview, citing col. 12, lines 24-29, the Examiners pointed out that in Hahn, the user can directly select a portion of a thumbnail page and in response, the selected portion is displayed in the document view region.

However, Hahn does not teach or suggest that the thumbnail as a whole has the original document as the first associated destination. As described at col. 12, lines 12-29, in order to access the original document, the user must select one of the function buttons 1800-1840 as shown in Figs. 16 and 17. These selection buttons are separate from the thumbnail.

In addition, according to the section cited by the Examiners, when a portion of the thumbnail page is selected, the selected portion in the original document is displayed. In other words, the entire thumbnail of Hahn is merely a collection of many selectable portions, each of which corresponds to a respective portion in the original document. Therefore, the thumbnail as a whole does not have the original document as the first destination. As such, Hahn does not teach or suggest this claimed feature.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentably distinct from the applied prior art.

Claims 2 and 3 are allowable at least for their dependence on an allowable base claim.

Claim 4 recites, *inter alia*, that a thumbnail has a first selectable element, and the first selectable element has, as an associated destination, one of an arbitrary portion of the original document accessible by selection of a second selectable element provided in the original document, and a document other than the original document. In other words, by selecting the first selectable element, a portion of the original document that is also accessible by selecting the second selectable element in the original document, or another document may be accessed.

First, as described above in connection with claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the interpretation of an icon as a thumbnail is unreasonable.

Second, in Hahn, when the user selects a portion of a thumbnail, the selected portion in the original document is displayed in the document view region as described above. However, Hahn does not teach or suggest that such portion in the original document is also accessible by the second selectable element in the original document. As such, claim 4 is patentably distinct from the applied prior art, including the newly cited passage referred to during the interview.

Claims 5-8 are allowable at least for their dependence on an allowable base claim.

Claim 9 recites, *inter alia*, that an enhanced thumbnail has an element with a modified appearance relative to an appearance of a corresponding element in the original document. An example of this feature is shown in Fig. 13.

In other words, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, for example, a thumbnail contains portions with modified appearance (e.g., enlarged text with color) that is different from the actual appearance of the corresponding portion in the original document. That is, unlike the normal

thumbnail, which is a mere reduction in size of the original document, as shown in Fig. 3, with enhanced thumbnails, the user can easily identify the contents of original document without actually accessing it.

The Office Action continues to state that a drawer is a thumbnail. However, as discussed above, such an interpretation is unreasonable. Especially, the Office Action states that the thumbnail taught by Hahn includes an icon and text name field and aids the user in quickly identifying the drawer. However, while the icons and text name fields provide the user a sense in terms of the type (or category) of original document, they do not allow the user to directly view a part of the original document, as described in paragraph [0008] of the specification, for example.

In addition, including the newly cited passage referred to during the interview, Hahn does not teach or suggest a thumbnail having an element with a modified appearance, but rather shows a plain thumbnail as shown in Figs. 16 and 17. As such, claim 9 is patentably distinct from the applied prior art.

Claims 10-11 are allowable at least for their dependence on an allowable base claim.

Claims 12, 15 and 20 recite features similar to those of claims 1, 4 and 9, respectively. As such, these claims are also patentably distinct from the applied art.

Claims 13-14, 16-19, and 21-22 are allowable at least for their dependence on allowable base claims.

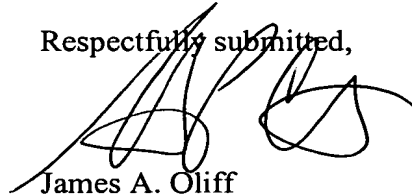
New claims 26-28 are an independent form of cancelled claims 23-25, and recite features similar to claims 1, 4 and 9, respectively. As such, these claims are also patentably distinct from the applied prior art.

As such, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-22 and 26-28 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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